United Nations E/2005/SR.39

Economic and Social Council

Provisional

7 November 2005

Original: English

Substantive session of 2005
General segment

Provisional summary record of the 39th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Tuesday, 26 July 2005, at 3 p.m.

President: Mr. Nesho (Vice-President) ..... (Albania)

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05-43877 (E)

In the absence of Mr. Akram (Pakistan), Mr. Nesho (Albania), Vice-President, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 3.15 p.m.

Coordination, programme and other questions (*continued*)

(e) Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system (*continued*) (E/2005/L.38)

Draft resolution E/2005/L.38

1. **Mr. Komar** (Indonesia) introduced draft resolution E/2005/L.38 and read out the list of additional co-sponsors of the draft text. In draft paragraph 4 (j), the words "promoting the collection, compilation and analysis of sex-disaggregated data, and ensuring their use of such data" should be substituted for "and ensuring the use of available sex-disaggregated data".

2. **Mr. Fox** (United States of America), with reference to the fourth preambular paragraph, recalled the position which the United States delegation had taken at the 2005 session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

3. *Draft resolution E/2005/L.38, as orally revised, was adopted.*

(h) Ad hoc advisory groups on African countries emerging from conflict (*continued*) (E/2005/L.25, L.30, L.36 and L.37)

Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau (E/2005/L.30 and L.36)

4. *Draft resolution E/2005/L.36 was adopted.*

5. *Draft resolution E/2005/L.30 was withdrawn.*

Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Burundi (E/2005/L.25 and L.37)

6. *Draft resolution E/2005/L.37 was adopted.*

7. *Draft resolution E/2005/L.25 was withdrawn.*

Regional cooperation — Theme: "Achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration: a regional perspective" (*continued*) (E/2005/15/Add.1 and E/2005/L.21)

8. **Mr. Benmellouk** (Morocco) introduced draft resolution E/2005/L.21, entitled "Europe-Africa fixed link through the Strait of Gibraltar", France had joined the co-sponsors of the draft resolution.

9. *Draft resolution E/2005/L.21 was adopted.*

The meeting was suspended at 3.25 p.m. and resumed at 3.55 p.m.

Action on recommendations contained in document E/2005/15/Add.1

10. **The President** drew the Council's attention to document E/2005/15/Add.1, which contained eight resolutions and one decision from the regional commissions requiring action by the Council.

Draft resolutions I and II

11. **The President** invited the Council to take action on draft resolution I, entitled "Mid-term review concerning the functioning of the conference structure of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific", and on draft resolution II, entitled "Statute of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific".

12. *Draft resolutions I and II were adopted.*

Draft resolutions III, IV and V

13. **The President** called the Council's attention to the summary of the programme budget implications of draft resolutions III, IV and V, contained in annex II to the report of the sixty-first session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (E/2005/39-ESCAP/1359).

14. *Draft resolutions III, IV and V were adopted.*

Draft resolution VI

15. *Draft resolution VI was adopted.*

Draft decision contained in chapter I, section A

16. *The draft decision contained in chapter I, section A, entitled "Venue of the sixty-second session of the Commission", was adopted.*

Draft resolution contained in chapter I, section B

17. *The draft resolution contained in chapter I, section B was adopted.*

Draft resolution contained in chapter I, section C

18. *The draft resolution contained in chapter I, section C was postponed for consideration at a later stage.*

Economic and environmental questions (*continued*) (E/2005/74)

(a) Sustainable development (*continued*) (E/2005/29, Supplement No. 9 and E/2005/L.35)

Draft resolution E/2005/L.35

19. **Ms. Gordon** (Jamaica) introduced draft resolution E/2005/L.35, entitled "United Nations Public-Private Alliance for Rural Development" on behalf of the Group of 77 and China. The draft resolution was based on the first resolution on the issue, which had been adopted at the previous year's substantive session of the Council (E/2004/49). The current draft highlighted the role of the Dominican Republic as the second pilot country for the Alliance.

20. **Mr. Seth** (Secretary of the Council) said that the word "Welcomes" in paragraph 1 should be replaced by "Encourages".

21. **Mr. del Rosario Caballos** (Dominican Republic) thanked the Group of 77 and China for endorsing the draft resolution. The initiative would allow the Government of the Dominican Republic to serve as the second pilot country for the Alliance.

22. *Draft resolution E/2005/L.35, as orally revised, was adopted.*

(d) Human settlements (*continued*) (E/2005/60, A/60/8, Supplement No. 8 and E/2005/L.26)

Draft decision E/2005/L.26

23. *Draft decision E/2005/L.26 was adopted.*

(g) Public administration and development (*continued*) (E/2005/44, Supplement No. 24)

Draft resolution contained in document E/2005/44, Supplement No. 24

24. **The President** proposed that the Council should defer consideration of the draft resolution contained in document E/2005/44, Supplement No. 24.

25. *It was so decided.*

Social and human rights questions (*continued*)

(a) Advancement of women (*continued*) (E/2005/27 and Corr.1)

26. **The President** invited the Council to take action on the draft resolution, entitled "Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women", contained in the report of the Commission on the Status of Women (E/2005/27 and Corr.1). A recorded vote had been requested on the draft resolution.

27. **Mr. Fox** (United States of America) said that the United States would vote against the draft resolution. His Government remained deeply concerned about the impact of the current crisis on Palestinian women and the entire Palestinian population. It was the largest donor to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) and contributed significant amounts to many United Nations programmes that provided assistance to Palestinians. The United States also provided assistance for the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza through the United States Agency for International Development.

28. At the same time, however, his Government grieved for the innocent Israelis, including women, who had suffered and died as a result of Palestinian terrorist attacks, a reality that many delegations did not recognize.

29. The United States was committed to working with the Quartet and regional States to move both parties forward towards President Bush's vision of two States, Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security. The parties were now at a moment of genuine but fragile opportunity and the focus of the international community should be on helping both sides to maintain progress.

30. One-sided resolutions like the current one only served to undermine the ability of the United Nations to play a constructive role in furthering peace and so make less attainable the peace that, more than anything else, would improve the lot of Palestinian women and all people caught up in the conflict.

31. *A recorded vote was taken.*

In favour:

Albania, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Denmark, Ecuador, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Poland, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Spain, Thailand, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania.

Against:

Australia, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Canada, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iceland, Nicaragua.

32. *The draft resolution was adopted by 46 votes to 2, with 4 abstentions.*

Draft decision contained in document E/2005/27 and Corr.1

33. *The draft decision contained in document E/2005/27 and Corr.1 was adopted.*

The meeting rose at 4.20 p.m.